

**DETERMINATING THE POSSIBILITY OF ADVERSE EFFECTS ARISING
FROM A CODE CHANGE**

ABSTRACT

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Some of the set of classes within a computer program are important in the sense that the most useful information about the software can be derived from these classes alone. The important classes within the software are identified, as well as any dependent classes.

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Test cases are defined and associated with all classes. A code change for a class invokes the relevant test case or cases being run. The corresponding test case or cases for any dependent class are also run. If they run successfully (in the sense that the expected results arise), then it is highly likely that the changes introduced in the first class are not affecting the correct execution of the dependent classes.